

AMENDMENTS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A single biological sample storage device for storing and testing blood or blood products, comprising:

a closed container for receiving and storing blood or blood products for several days on day 1; and comprising

~~six~~ a plurality of outlets for subsequent testing of the blood or blood products, wherein each of the outlets comprises:

an open seal situated between the container and each outlet such that the seal on each outlet can be permanently sealed from the container, at least a first section for holding a portion of the blood or blood products, a closed seal between the first and a second section wherein the a second section ~~comprising~~ comprises a lysis buffer or an isotonic buffer, and a closed seal between the second and a third section wherein the a third section ~~comprising~~ comprises at least two a test reagents,

wherein each of the outlets is arranged as a protruding element from the container, ~~and wherein at least one of the two reagents is bound to a solid support or is lyophilized.~~

2-3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently Amended) The device according to claim ~~[[2]]~~ 1, wherein the ~~second section~~ closed seal between the first and second section in each outlet is sealed off from the first section ~~via~~ a pressure sensitive seal, and wherein applied pressure causes the seal to break and the blood or blood product to mix with the lysis buffer or the isotonic buffer.

5. (Currently Amended) The device according to claim 4, wherein the closed seal between the second and third section ~~in each outlet is sealed off from the second section via~~ is a pressure sensitive seal, and wherein applied pressure causes the seal to break and the test reagents to mix with the lysed or isotonic blood or blood product.

6-13. (Canceled)

14. (Currently Amended) The device according to claim 1, wherein the test reagents~~are~~ is a catalytic molecule, ~~and~~ a reporter sequence, or both.

15. (Original) The device according to claim 14, wherein said catalytic molecule is an inactivated ribozyme, a DNAzyme or a catalytic antibody.

16. (Currently Amended) The device according to claim 14, wherein the test reagents~~are~~ is an inactivated ribozyme, ~~and~~ an RNA reporter sequence, or both.

17. (Original) The device according to claim 14, wherein at least one of the catalytic molecule and reporter sequence is immobilized to a solid support.

18. (Original) The device according to claim 14, wherein at least one of the catalytic molecule and reporter sequence is in a lyophilized form.

19. (Canceled)

20. (Withdrawn) A method of testing a blood or blood product for a target molecule indicative of contamination in said blood or blood product, comprising

providing a sample of a blood product in a compartment of the storage device for storing and testing blood or blood products, comprising:

a container for receiving and storing blood or blood products;

and at least one compartment for testing the blood or blood products, wherein said compartment comprises:

at least a first section for holding a portion of the blood or blood products, and optionally for testing the portion of the blood or blood products;

contacting the blood product in the compartment with a lysing buffer;

releasing the target molecule from the cells and protein in the blood product; and

detecting the presence of the target molecule.

21. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 20, wherein the target molecule is a 16S ribosomal RNA or a nucleic acid associated with a pathogen.

22. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 20 or 21, wherein the detecting step employs test reagents comprising a catalytic molecule and a reporter sequence.

23. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 22, wherein said catalytic molecule is an inactivated ribozyme, a DNAzyme or a catalytic antibody.

24. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 22, wherein said test reagents are an inactivated ribozyme and an RNA reporter sequence.

25. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 24, wherein the inactivated ribozyme binds to the target molecule, which activates the ribozyme that cleaves the RNA reporter sequence and releases a detectable sequence.

26. (Withdrawn) A method of testing a blood or blood product for a target molecule indicative of contamination in said blood or blood product, comprising
providing a sample of a blood product in a compartment of the storage device for storing and testing blood or blood products, comprising:
a container for receiving and storing blood or blood products;
and at least one compartment for testing the blood or blood products, wherein said compartment comprises:
at least a first section for holding a portion of the blood or blood products, and optionally for testing the portion of the blood or blood products;
contacting the blood product in the compartment with a buffer to dilute the sample; and
detecting the presence of the target molecule.

27. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 26, wherein the target molecule is a protein associated with a pathogen.
28. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 26 or 27, wherein the detecting step employs test reagents comprising a catalytic molecule and a reporter sequence.
29. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 28, wherein said catalytic molecule is an inactivated ribozyme or catalytic antibody.
30. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 28, wherein said test reagents are an inactivated ribozyme and an RNA reporter sequence.
31. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 30, wherein the inactivated ribozyme binds to the target molecule which activates the ribozyme that cleaves the RNA reporter sequence and releases a detectable sequence.
32. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 1, wherein the device comprises a biological sample.
33. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 32, wherein the biological sample comprises blood or a blood product.
34. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 33, wherein the blood product comprises blood platelets.